Special Subject: Defense Investigative Service

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Per DoD Directive 5105.42

Defense Investigative Service Organized

FIRST DIRECTOR—Air Force Brigadier General Joseph J. Cappucci (right), first director of the newly created Defense Investigative Service (DIS), presents the first DIS Special Agent badge to Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird. (Official DoD Photo)

The Defense Investigative Service (DIS), a new, centrally directed personnel security investigative service which became operational October 1, was organized in compliance with President Nixon's decision of November 5, 1971, to consolidate all Departmental investigative activities within a single agency.

DIS is designed to respond quickly to the needs for personnel security investigations within the entire Defense establishment. Other basic objectives of the new agency are to reduce costs of operations and to increase managerial efficiency.

Before the establishment of DIS, each Military Department was responsible for conducting its own personnel security investigations. Costs of these investigative activities will be reduced by the consolidation.

DoD Directive 5105.42, "Charter for the Defense Investigative Service (DIS)," April 18, 1972, defines the DIS mission as follows:

> "To provide DoD Components* and other U.S. Government activities, when authorized by the Secretary of Defense, with a single centrally directed personnel security investigative service."

DIS investigations are limited to the 50 States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In oversea areas, personnel

* Office of the Secretary of Defense, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Military Departments, Unified and Specified Commands and Defense Agencies.

investigative requirements will continue to be accomplished by the Military Departments, as they have in the past.

DIS also performs routine security clearance investigations for Defense contractor personnel, as requested by the Defense Industrial Clearance Office, with headquarters at Columbus, Ohio. Results of these investigations are sent back to that Agency, which is an arm of the Office of Industrial Security, Defense Supply Agency. Formerly, these investigations were performed by the Military Departments.

DIS became operational on October 1 as a separate DoD Agency under the direction, authority and control of the Secretary of Defense.

Air Force Brigadier General Joseph J. Cappucci, former Commander, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, is the first Director of DIS.

Headquarters of DIS are in the Forrestal Building, Washington, D.C. In the field, the organization consists of 20 districts, with 19 in the Continental United States and one in Hawaii. Subordinate to those districts are 243 field units.

Manpower resources for the operation of DIS are provided by the Army, Navy, and Air Force. The functions, structure and capability of the Defense Investigative Service will not be duplicated in residual Service units. Most of the assigned field personnel serve as investigators.

DIS personnel who perform the investigative functions of the Agency are known as Special Agents. Most are officers or noncommissioned officers of the various Services. Some are DoD civilian employees. Except for a few who occupy certain supervisory positions, military ranks or grades are not disclosed. The military investigators wear civilian clothes. Most of the investigating staff, military and civilian, have had investigative experience with the Federal Government or other investigative or law enforcement agencies.

DIS provides the Defense establishment with another effective management mechanism for assuring that investigative activities are always conducted with due respect for the rights of all citizens. DIS also assures that such investigations conform with the law and the traditions relating to civilian-military relationships.

Agents of DIS do not engage in law-enforcement. Counterintelligence and criminal investigations will continue to be performed by the Army, Navy and Air Force. DIS activities are confined to the conduct of Defense Department personnel security investigations. Such investigations include national and local agency checks and other investigative inquiries to determine the suitability of military and civilian affiliates of the Department of Defense for access to classified information. Investigative inquiries may involve the resolution of such allegations as existence of criminal records, subversive affiliations and hostage situations.

As a fact-finding agency, DIS presents the results of its investigations to the requesting authority who determines what appropriate action should be taken. Criminal and counterintelligence information developed in the course of personnel security investigations is referred to the appropriate Military Department or the FBI.

DIS Special Agent's badge

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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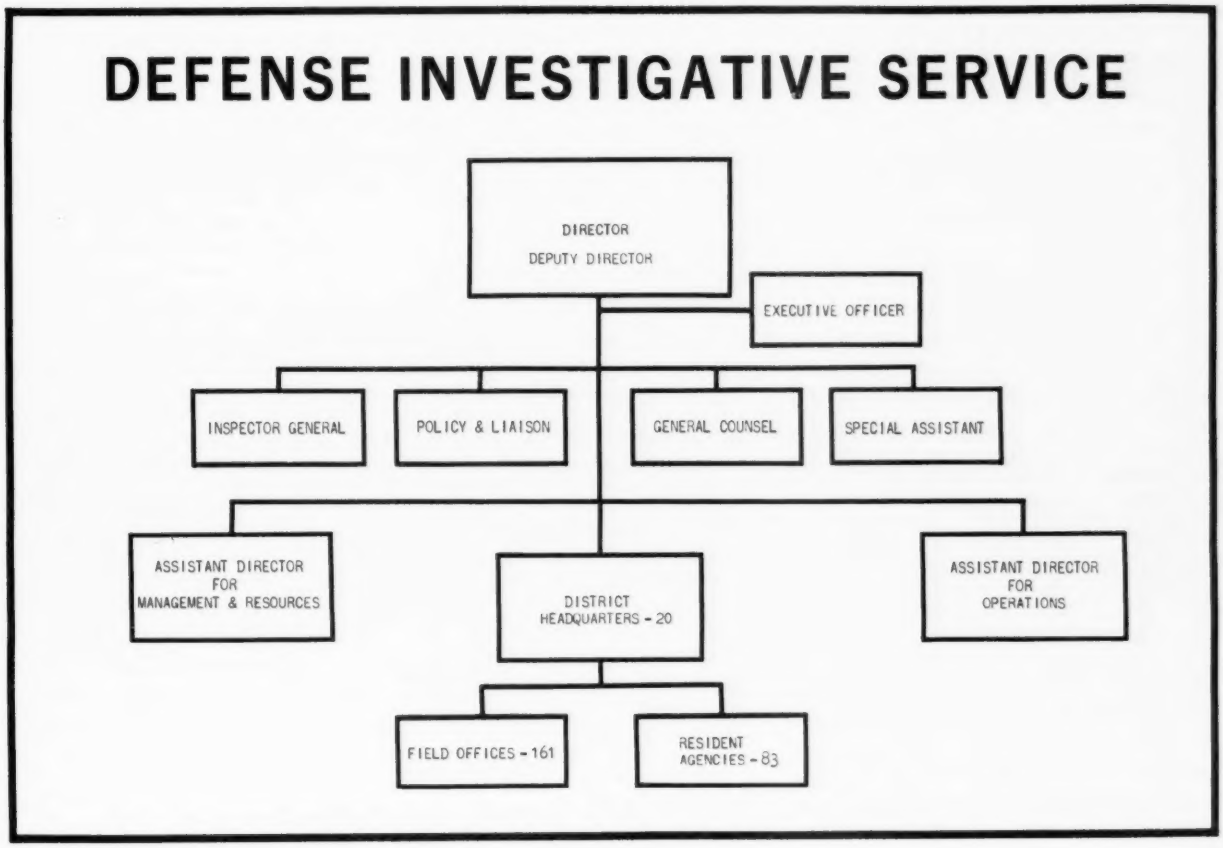
Telephones: (202) OXford 4-4912
Autovon 224-4912



Under Control of Defense Secretary

DIS: New Centralized Service For Commanders

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense, the Defense Investigative Service (DIS) is established as a separate operating agency of the Department of Defense (DoD), under the direction, authority, and control of the Secretary of Defense.

ORGANIZATION

DIS will consist of:

- A Director, a Deputy Director, and a headquarters establishment.
- Such subordinate units, field activities, and facilities as established by the Director, DIS, or are herein or hereafter assigned specifically to DIS by the Secretary of Defense. DIS will limit its investigations to the fifty States, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The Military Departments will be requested to accomplish investigative requirements of the DIS in other areas.

MISSIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The mission of DIS is to provide DoD components, and other U.S. Government activities when authorized by the Secretary of Defense, with a single centrally directed personnel security investigative service, operating in accordance with provisions of DoD Directive 5200. 27, dated March 1, 1971. (DoD components are defined for the purposes of this article as the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Military Departments, Unified and Specified Commands and Defense Agencies.)

The Director, DIS, will be responsible for:

1. Conducting, directing and con-

trolling all Personnel Security Investigations (PSIs) for DoD components, including investigations of allegations of subversive affiliations, suitability information, or hostage situations that may be required to complete a PSI;

2. Operating a consolidated central PSI Control Center;
3. Operating the National Agency Check Center;
4. Operating the Defense Central Index of Investigations;
5. Programming, budgeting, funding, accounting and reporting the activities of DIS in accordance with the policies and procedures established by the Secretary of Defense;
6. Providing advice and assistance to, and participating as a non-voting member on, the Defense Investigative Review Council (DIRC); and
7. Assuring that all investigators receive appropriate training and are fully qualified to conduct PSIs according to established standards.

SUPERVISION

Staff supervision of the DIS for the Secretary of Defense will be exercised by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).

FUNCTIONS

Under its Director, and in accordance with the assignments of responsibility detailed in "Missions and Responsibilities" above, the DIS will:

- Conduct all PSIs for DoD components and, when authorized by the Secretary of Defense, other U.S. Government agencies.
- Provide DoD components and other U.S. Government agencies with the results of these investigations as appropriate.
- When feasible and within available resources, provide investigative assistance, upon request, to supplement the investigative efforts of other DoD components.
- When authorized, maintain liaison on matters of mutual interest with, and, within limits of established policy, render appropriate assistance to, investigative, law enforcement, intelligence, counterintelligence, and other U.S. and foreign government activities. Keep the Secretary of Defense informed on such activities, through the ASD(C).
- Conduct surveys and prepare analyses, special studies, and estimates on investigative matters within the purview of DIS.
- Obtain from requesting DoD components and other U.S. Government activities, for record and statistical purposes, information on actions taken and final disposition of matters investigated by DIS.
- Refer all matters developed as a result of PSIs which have a significant counterintelligence or criminal aspect to the appropriate civilian or military investigative agency. Counterintelligence, as used herein, shall mean those investigative activities, both offensive and defensive, designed to detect, neutralize or destroy the effectiveness of foreign intelligence activities. The provisions of the Delimitations Agreement of February 23, 1949, will govern.
- Establish standards and procedures for certification and accreditation of civilian and military personnel assigned to DIS investigative departments.
- Such other special investigations as the Secretary of Defense may direct.

AUTHORITIES

The Director, DIS, is specifically delegated authority to:

- Exercise direction, authority, and control over DIS, and
- Exercise administrative authorities contained in Enclosure 1 of DoD Directive 5105.42, dated April 18, 1972.

RELATIONSHIPS

In the performance of his functions, the Director, DIS, shall:

1. Maintain appropriate liaison with DoD components and other agencies for the exchange of information and programs in the field of assigned responsibilities;
2. Maintain a close working relationship with Military Department investigative agencies, commanders, and security and military police program managers to insure responsiveness and integration of effort;
3. Make use of existing DoD facilities and services whenever practicable, to achieve maximum efficiency and economy;
4. Enter into agreements with Heads of DoD components to provide for direct communications on investigative lead matters between the DIS investigative staff and all levels of the Military Department investigative agencies; and
5. Provide personnel security investigative support to the Director, National Security Agency, through separate agreement with him to include investigation scope and reporting procedures.

DoD components shall cooperate and assist the DIS by providing access to information within their respective fields so that the Director, DIS, may carry out his assigned mission.

Military Departments shall insure that overseas investigative agencies provide prompt responses to DIS lead requests in order to expedite investigative matters within the mission of DIS. The Director, DIS, will provide programming and workload projection information to the Military Departments for their use in budgeting, and otherwise organizing, for their operational support to the DIS.

ADMINISTRATION

The Director and Deputy Director, DIS, will be appointed by the Secretary of Defense. When the Director and Deputy Director are both military officers, they will normally be from different Military Departments.

The DIS will be authorized such personnel, facilities, funds and other administrative support as the Secretary of Defense deems necessary.

Military personnel will be assigned to the DIS from the Military Departments in accordance with approved authorizations and procedures for assignment to joint duty.

EFFECTIVE DATES AND IMPLEMENTATION

DoD Directive 5105.42 was effective upon publication. In the event of conflict between the Directive and previous directives and instructions, the provisions of the Directive will govern. All DoD components will review their existing directives, instructions and regulations for conformance with the Directive; advise the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the results of that review within 30 days and implement any necessary changes within 90 days of publication of the Directive.

Defense Investigative Service District Offices

District 11
Defense Investigative Service
Navy Bldg—Room 680
495 Summer St.
Boston, MA 02210

District 12
Defense Investigative Service
Room 1637—26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY 10007

District 13
Defense Investigative Service
Bldg 303
Griffiss AFB, NY 13440

District 14
Defense Investigative Service
Bldg 734—U.S. Naval Base
Philadelphia, PA 19112

District 15
Defense Investigative Service
Tempo C. Room 1049
2nd & Q St., SW
Washington, DC 20315

District 21
Defense Investigative Service
Room 879, New Federal Bldg
Louisville, KY 40202

District 22
Defense Investigative Service
C/O SA J. B. Cole
USNIS Office
Norfolk, VA 23511

District 23
Defense Investigative Service
Bldg 131
Fort McPherson, GA 30334

District 31
Defense Investigative Service
Defense Contruction Supply Center
Bldg 153
Columbus, OH 43215

District 32
Defense Investigative Service
Bldg 105
Fort Sheridan, IL 60037

District 33
Defense Investigative Service
C/O AFOSI Det 1205
Richards-Gebauer AFB, MO 64030

District 34
Bldg 627
Malmstrom AFB, MT 59402

District 41
Defense Investigative Service
Naval Support Activity East Bank
Bldg 601-4-A
4400 Dauphine St.
New Orleans, LA 70146

District 42
Defense Investigative Service
Bldg 4201
2943 Pan Am Expressway
San Antonio AFS, TX 78208

District 43
Defense Investigative Service
New Customs House
19th and Strout Sts., Rm 324
Denver, CO 80201

District 51
Defense Investigative Service
Bldg 9, Naval Support Activity
Seattle, WA 98115

District 52
Defense Investigative Service
Presidio of San Francisco
San Francisco, CA 94129

District 53
Defense Investigative Service
P.O. Box 92960
World Ways Postal Center
Los Angeles, CA 90009

District 71
Defense Investigative Service
C/O Navy
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

District 24
Defense Investigative Service
C/O Naval Training Center
Orlando, FL 32813

Director of Defense Investigative Service Discusses Organization's Purpose, Role

During a recent worldwide American Forces Radio and Television interview in the Pentagon, Air Force Brigadier General Joseph J. Cappucci explained the complex mission and operations of the Defense Department's new Defense Investigation Service (DIS).

The interview is published here in condensed form to provide information and insight into the operations and procedures of the new Defense agency to commanders of all Services.

* * * * *

Correspondent: General Cappucci what is the Defense Investigative Service?

Gen. Cappucci: The Defense Investigative Service (DIS) is a new, centrally-directed personnel security investigation service, established by the Secretary of Defense in compliance with the decision of the President.

Q.: You have mentioned that DIS is a new organization. As such, what is its purpose and objectives?

A.: The purpose of the DIS is to have under the control of one agency the conduct of all personnel security investigations for the Military Departments and for all the Department of Defense agencies. The objectives of the DIS are to have better management, economy, a quicker response to requests from commanders for those investigations and for managerial efficiency.

Q.: How does the new organization differ from the old set-up?

A.: Prior to the establishment of the DIS, personnel security investigations were conducted by the separate Military Departments. Now that has all been consolidated into the DIS so that the Military Departments will no longer conduct personnel security investigations.

Q.: Will the DIS investigate civilian personnel as well as the military?

A.: Yes, it will. The only civilians it will conduct security investigations on are those that are affiliated or associated with the Department of Defense. It includes civilian employees of the Defense establishment and certain personnel in industry who will have access to classified information.

Q.: What is the purpose behind a background investigation?

A.: A background investigation determines the trustworthiness, suitability and loyalty of persons for access to classified information.

Q.: How do you go about conducting such an investigation?

A.: The criteria for the conduct of a security investigation is established by the office of the Secretary of Defense. Those are minimum requirements. When a person is subject to a personnel security investigation, he or she first fills out a personal history statement, and when that is forwarded to us by the command, then we start with that. Actually, what a personnel security investigation consists of is a checking of the information in a personal history statement. The first thing that takes place is what we call a national agency check. This is a check at the national level of the FBI criminal files, FBI subversive files, plus any other agency that may have information about that individual, based on the information that we get from the personal history statement.

Q.: What happens when you run into a discrepancy that is found on the personal history statement?

A.: When there's a discrepancy, if it's a minor thing like a difference in dates of a few days or a few weeks, we don't bother with that very much. But if it's a major discrepancy, we will pursue it further to find out exactly what it is that is true. For example, if there's a wide discrepancy in the birth certificate as opposed to the birth date given in the history statement, we'll attempt to find out how this occurred. We'll account for the person's time from the day he was born up until the time of the investigation. The investigation is conducted for the commanders and for the DoD agencies at their request, and when we complete it, it is forwarded to them. The DIS will take absolutely no action on any background investigation. We're strictly a fact-finding organization, and

". . . The mission of the Defense Investigative Service is to provide investigative services and background investigations for the commander. DIS is there to work for the commander. . . ."

—Brigadier General Joseph J. Cappucci, USAF
Director, Defense Investigative Service

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". . . One of our objectives, of course, is a quick completion time, hopefully less than 30 days, so that the commander can make an adjudication, a clearance for the individual, and put him to work. . . ."

". . . No lawyers, credit bureaus or any other private organization have access to these files. We are not private detectives; . . . these are official files and are only for official use. . . ."

the facts are reported to the requester in the form of a report of investigation.

Q.: What is your expected case load during a year's time?

A.: For about a year, we project that our caseload will approximate 180,000 personnel security investigations and approximately 1,200,000 national agency checks.

Q.: Once an investigation is completed by DIS, what is the next step?

A.: Once the investigation is completed, then the report is returned to the commander who requested the investigation. One of our objectives, of course, is a quick completion time, hopefully less than 30 days, so that the commander can make an adjudication, a clearance for the individual, and put him to work.

Q.: How long do you keep the files on individuals you do investigate?

A.: The files are kept really only as long as we'll need them. They're stored in a safeguarded area. No one has access to these reports unless he has an absolute need to have the information. The files are completely safeguarded 24 hours a day.

Q.: Who does have access to the investigations and the files?

A.: Access would be given only for official use; for example, a person's commander would have access. If the FBI were running a case in which it was necessary to check the file of an individual in connection with that particular case, then the FBI would send a man over and we would let him review the file.

Q.: Would a person have access to the files for such things as divorce cases or credit checks?

A.: Absolutely not. No lawyers, credit bureaus or any other private organization have access to these files. We are not private detectives; we're an official function. These are official files and are only for official use.

Q.: How may one go about examining them?

A.: It has to be by formal request. In addition to that, we have an access list of those who have been given authorization to review the files for certain reasons. Again, requests must come from official agencies only.

Q.: How does the DIS support the military commander?

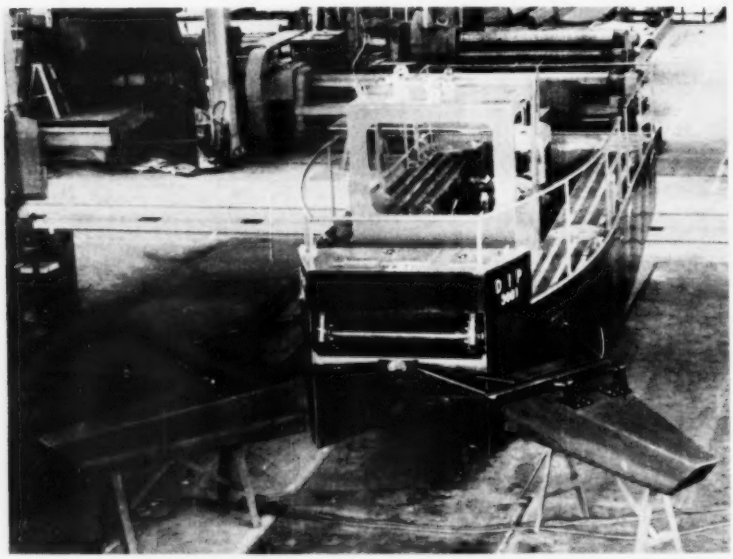
A.: The mission of the DIS is to provide investigative services and background investigations for the commander. DIS is there to work for the commander. The request for an investigation and background comes to us. We perform the function, we collect the facts, and we report it back to the commander. We make no adjudication, we make no recommendations; we just report the facts. On the basis of that, then, the commander is able to make a determination for clearance of the individual.

ARMED FORCES INITIATIVES

RESEARCH. The Marines are currently testing hy-glide ratio parachutes. Paratroopers jump as far away as 10 miles from a landing area and glide in undetected, minimizing risk to both aircraft and jumpers. The tests are being conducted at Quantico, Virginia, and involve many forms of steerable parachutes such as Para-wing, Para-foil and Para-plane. Once testing is completed, the Marines will determine which chute is best for combat. Officials feel the new gliding chutes and techniques will be of particular value to reconnaissance teams.

RESEARCH. The U.S. Army Mobility Equipment and Development Center, Fort Belvoir, Virginia, now has one of the most sophisticated battery test facilities in the country. Batteries are tested in less time and at less expense and under more controlled conditions than were previously possible. The new instrument (photo), an electrical vehicle duty cycle simulator now undergoing acceptance tests at the center, is becoming operational. The device is used to simulate the actual demand upon batteries from a road vehicle, as well as from battery chargers. The tester is rated at 125 volts and 1,000 amperes continuous, with short-duration overload capabilities.
(U.S. Army Photo)

HUMAN GOALS. In step with the times, STEP, an acronym for the Student Training and Experience Program at McChord AFB, Washington, is now in its third year and doubling enrollment. STEP basically teaches high school students to develop proper office-conduct attitudes. While not a numbers game—only 52 students were enrolled last year—McChord has "stepped-up" STEP to a goal of 104 students this year. The program is geared to practical training, such as how to get along with fellow workers and how to make proper decisions.



RESEARCH. Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) has a responsibility to contain and collect harbor oil spills, including equipment development and evaluation for that mission. NAVFAC has developed a work boat (photo), utilizing a skimmer principle—specifically, the Dynamic Inclined Plane (DIP) concept—for collecting oil under the surface of the water. Oil and water, confined below the skimmer by vertical plates extending on either side of a moving plane, are forced to travel along the surface of a conveyor belt to a collection well inside the vessel.
(Official U.S. Navy Photo)

ECOLOGY. A worldwide Ecology Spot Report system is being tested by selected U.S. Navy fleet units during a six-month period that began November 1. The idea is to use the Navy's widespread operations as a vehicle for reporting evidence of pollution on the high seas—evidence which might otherwise go unnoticed. Data collected will be provided to Federal environmental organizations for evaluation and subsequent study.

ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT. The 68th Engineer Company's earthmoving platoon at Fort Bliss, Texas, engaged in a special domestic action program, has spent two weeks widening and upgrading a road, building two new roads and constructing fire breaks in the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation northeast of Alamogordo, New Mexico. Beside providing the safeguards for the Reservation, the project also doubled as a training exercise.

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